



FEB 22 2005

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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dept.: E/M

By: GJM/SNS/jrs

OSMM&N File No. 0557-4962-2

Serial No. 09/551,466

In the matter of the Application of: Sadao TAKAHASHI

For: IMAGE BINARIZATION APPARATUS, IMAGE BINARIZATION METHOD
IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS, IMAGE PICKUP METHOD, AND A
COMPUTER PRODUCT

Due Date: 12/17/2004

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent Office on the date stamped hereon:

- Dep. Acct. Order Form
- Credit Card Form for \$180.00
- Information Disclosure Statement PTO-1449
- Cited References 2
- German Office Action w/translation

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FEB 22 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Sadao TAKAHASHI

SERIAL NO: 09/551,466

GAU: 2623

FILED: April 17, 2000

EXAMINER: Dastouri, Mehrdad

FOR: IMAGE BINARIZATION APPARATUS, IMAGE BINARIZATION METHOD, IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS, IMAGE PICKUP METHOD, AND A COMPUTER PRODUCT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 and German Office Action. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

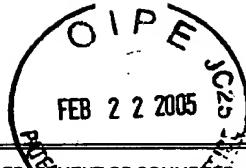
Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TRADEMARK REGISTRATION		ATTY DOCKET NO. 0557-4962-2	SERIAL NO. 09/551,466
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Sadao TAKAHASHI			
		FILING DATE April 17, 2000		GROUP 2623	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS SUB CLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,450,163	9/12/1995	IWASAKI	
	AB	5,796,876	8/18/1998	WANG, et al.	
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
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	AH				
	AI				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AO				
	AP				
	AQ				
	AR				
	AS				
	AT				
	AU				
	AV				
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
	AW				
	AX				
	AY				
	AZ				
					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.					

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